

IN BATTLE ON MOUNTAINSIDE WOMAN IS SHOT TO DEATH WHILE DEFENDING HER OUTLAW HUSBAND FROM CAPTURE

FLOOD WILL REACH FOURTEEN FEET ABOVE HIGH TIDE

James River Expected to Send Water Into Main Street To-Day.

WARNING SENT TO ALL POINTS

Midnight Reports From Columbia Indicated That Torrents of Water Were Sweeping Down. Heaviest Rainfall Locally Since 1910—Much Damage Feared.

River Still Rising

At 2 A. M. the Chesapeake and Ohio gauge at Columbia registered 26.1 feet, and rising. This indicates a rise of 15.8 feet in Richmond. Train service on the James River Division of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway has been canceled.

Flood warnings were issued early yesterday for the James River Valley by the United States Weather Bureau, the freshest being expected to reach a height of fourteen feet above high tide at the Richmond wharves by noon today. At midnight the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway gauge at Columbia showed twenty-five feet five inches of high water, a rise of fifteen inches since 10 P. M., and with indications of a further rise. Within a half hour after the steamer Brandon cleared for Norfolk last night, the Old Dominion wharves were flooded. Street car service by way of Lester Street to Fulton had been cut off by local flooding. Conditions before noon yesterday, and general flood warnings have been given by the police and Weather Bureau to the whole lower section of the city, both around the docks and in the neighborhood of Main Street Station.

Experienced river men express hopes that the flood will pass out without great damage, and this hope was greatly augmented when the United States Weather Bureau sent out a forecast from Washington at midnight indicating fair and much colder weather for to-day, with light northwest winds. All day yesterday a southerly wind, sometimes of great velocity, retarded the passage of the flood water and caused it to rise rapidly in the Richmond harbor and on the flats. The predicted change in the predicted change in the morning, the river men hope the water will pass rapidly by, leaving little damage in its wake.

For a week the river has been full of water, sometimes to its banks, and the general precipitation of the past few days came to a climax yesterday morning, and again at midday, when in the section about Richmond the rain fell almost like a cloudburst. In the twenty-four hours preceding 8 o'clock last night the local rainfall was 3.0 inches, the heaviest single day's precipitation since April, 1910.

Local Freshet Yesterday

The sudden and extremely heavy local rains of yesterday morning caused very peculiar local conditions and some damage, even before the river had begun to show the full effects of the freshet coming toward the mountains. The southwest side of the city, which still awaits the completion of its sewerage system, and which lies flat and depressed, was a lake of water, with streets impassable save in high boots. The two streams which afford drainage to a large section surrounding Richmond, and which take off much sewerage—Shoemaker Creek and Gillie's Creek—were each on a mad leap, ripping their way to the river with the violence of mountain streams. The ancient stone arch bridge which spans old Lester Street proved an insufficient vent for the torrent of water, and some damage was done to the grounds of the Lower Gas Works, where some damage was done.

Shoemaker Out of Its Banks.

Shoemaker Creek rose even more rapidly, the upper waters of Bacon's Quarter Branch coming down the valley under the Barton Heights viaduct like a river, and doing some damage in the first time in flood conditions. Put on was independent, however, as the cars of the Richmond and Henrico Railway reach that section by a high trestle, and the service on that line was not affected by high water. Water from Gillie's Creek backed over the Fulton flats for some distance, even into the grounds of the Lower Gas Works, where some damage was done.

Supports of the bridge were weak.

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WOMAN'S DEATH MAKES DANGER MORE SERIOUS

Clash Expected With Outlaws Who May Try to Rescue Allens.

NO TROOPS ARE ORDERED OUT YET

Governor Talks With Attorney-General at Hillsville, and Capture of Sidna Allen Is Confirmed—Situation More Alarming in Carroll County.

News Gratifying to Governor Mann

"The news received from Hillsville to-day is gratifying, and reassures me immensely. Law and order is restored, five of the murderers are in the hands of the officers, and the situation greatly improved. By the efficient work of the Baldwin-Felts detectives I believe the last of the desperadoes will be either arrested or killed within a few days without having had to resort to military force.

"The killing of Sidna Allen's wife is to be regretted, but was unavoidable under the circumstances."—Governor Mann.

Out of a mass of conflicting rumors, which had kept the Governor's office in suspense, there came last night the first official message from Attorney-General Williams, confirming the capture of Sidna Allen, the death of his wife, the arrest of other prisoners, and the denial of a fatal among the desperadoes. Because of the telegraphic isolation of Hillsville, Attorney-General Williams' long distance telephone message had to be repeated by the central operator at Philadelphia into the Governor's office. The message read:

"Hillsville, 9:30 P. M.—Court opened today. Officers reported. Posse on hand. Order prevails. Four prisoners arrested. Making effort to arrest others. Will report further to-morrow. Court going on. Have taken steps to guard prisoners. Getting along all right. Have attention in hand, but cannot discuss it over phone. No desperadoes killed. Sidna Allen seriously wounded and was captured.

While reassuring in many ways, the official report further beclouded the situation in respect to the number of desperadoes already captured.

Further Trouble Feared.

According to a dispatch from Detective Felts at noon yesterday, four prisoners were at that time in jail—Floyd Allen, Victor Allen, Strickland and Marion. The arrest of Sidna Allen and the death of his wife, as reported by the Baldwin Detective Agency to the Governor over telephone from Roanoke, occurred about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, after Felts' report was rendered, thus making a total of five prisoners in the jail.

Meagre as was the Attorney-General's report, it enabled the Governor to discuss the outlook more clearly with Adjutant-General Sale and Major L. T. Priebe last night. The official report, while reassuring in regard to the situation in Hillsville itself and the apprehension of all desperadoes within the town, hinted strongly at serious trouble in the mountains. By saying that the situation could not be discussed over telephone, the Attorney-General led the Governor to believe that the scattered outlaws had been tampering with the telephone lines and would likely hear the message being sent. A report to the Governor's office from the Baldwin yesterday morning stated that the outlaws were aiming in the mountain to completely cut off Hillsville's communication with the rest of the world by shooting off the glass insulators on the telephone poles.

Thought Night Critical.

As there is no direct telegraph line into Hillsville, any telegram must be repeated over the telephone from Hillsville to the Barron Springs telegraph station. Taking the attempt at wire-cutting with the raid Thursday night on the Mount Airy hardware store, from which guns and ammunition were taken, the Governor is apprehensive that the band in the mountains would last night make a determined attempt to ride into Hillsville and rescue its leader and comrades from the garrisoned jail. All knowledge of the Allens and their methods, their lawlessness and hate, confirms the supposition that an attempt at rescue will be made.

That the same fear is felt by the Attorney-General and the detectives is shown by the sentence in his report: "Have taken steps to guard prisoners." If the gang, which Detective Felts believed was aiming in the mountain last night, rode into Hillsville last night, a terrific fight ensued.

Won't Call Out Militia.

Fear of this rescue led to further conference last night between the Governor and his military aides. So great was Governor Mann's faith in the determination and strength of the de-



Courthouse at Hillsville, scene of murders, and County Clerk Dexter Goad, one of the wounded.

ALL NEGOTIATIONS END IN DEADLOCK

Mine Workers and Coal Operators Fail to Reach Agreement.

NO HINT OF COMPROMISE

Strike of 180,000 Workers in Pennsylvania Seems Probable.

New York, March 15.—The United Mine Workers of America and the committee of ten anthracite coal operators ended negotiations here today in a deadlock. To-night both sides declare they are standing firm—the miners for their demands of 20 per cent increase in wages, recognition of the union, a shorter work day and other concessions; the operators for a three-year renewal of the present agreement, which terminates at midnight March 31. Unless an agreement is reached by that date each side admits, 150,000 hard coal miners in Pennsylvania will cease work.

If there is any chance of compromise before that date it failed of expression to-day. President John P. White, of the miners' organization and his colleagues, said that they considered the case hopeless so far as avoiding suspensions of work, and they prepared to return home to-morrow. The operators' committee received the reiterated demands of the miners offered in response to the operators' reply without comment, further than that they regretted the miners' stand. After adjournment George Bear notified President White that the operators would meet the miners at any time, but regarding the demands as impossible of concession. Mr. White replied that they were equally impossible of modification.

Abide by Demands.

The executive committee and miners' national officers at a meeting later, decided to abide by their demands. They will meet to-morrow to deal with any phase of the situation which may develop. It is expected a statement answering the operators' statement for night will be issued. No formal strike will be declared, President White said to-night until after the policy committee meets in Cleveland, March 25.

In a statement to the public, issued to-night, the anthracite operators' committee reiterated the declaration that they cannot advance wages unless recouped through an advance in coal prices to the public, which they do not consider warranted by the depressed condition of the Mine Workers' Union, or the present agreement.

TRAINS BADLY DELAYED

All Canceled on James River Division of the C. & O.

Traffic over the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad was thrown all out of gear by washouts yesterday, which extended over a wide area. The last train into the city on schedule was the Washington express, which arrived here at 2:45 P. M. The southbound train, due at 2:55 o'clock this morning, was delayed. Mr. Byrd Street Station at 1:30 o'clock this morning, and all other trains from Washington were hunched behind it.

The train dispatcher's office reported that there were nearly a score of washouts. In many places the track was covered with mud and gravel, which had to be cleared by the crew. Near Ruthers Glen a small trestle was practically washed away, but it was repaired in time for trains to cross. The most serious trouble was between Doswell and Quantico.

All northbound trains were switched to Dowell to tracks of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway and continued the journey to Washington over that line. Trains on other roads were badly delayed, but no serious trouble was reported.

At 1:30 this morning all trains on the James River division of the Chesapeake and Ohio between Richmond and Lynchburg were cancelled on account of high water.

COURT REORGANIZED IN ROOM SCARRED BY MURDERERS' BULLETS

With Judge Staples on Bench, Grand Jury Is Summoned to Inoc Men Who Spread Death in Carroll County—A Semblance of Order and Confidence Restored.

BY ALEXANDER FORWARD.

Hillsville, Va., March 15.—More for the purpose of restoring public confidence and of securing accurate statements from witnesses of yesterday's tragedy than to aid in bringing the guilty men to justice, a special grand jury was summoned this afternoon, to indict the murderers of Judge Staples, to indict the murderers of Judge Staples, to indict the murderers of Judge Staples.

It is fully realized by Judge Staples that it is easier to indict than to arrest, and that warrants are already out for many members of the Allen gang, but his action in forming the jury has added materially in allaying the intense criticism which followed the horrifying murders.

The Circuit Court of Carroll, which was wiped out of existence yesterday morning, was reorganized to-day, and the citizens witnessed its proceeding with the due and orderly execution of justice.

Judge Staples appointed S. Floyd Landreth, of Galax, as special attorney for the Commonwealth, to serve until further notice.

All of Sheriff Webb's deputies are continued in office under the direction of Chief Deputy George D. Edwards. The summonses for the special grand jury are being served to-night.

Accompanied by Attorney-General Samuel Williams, Judge Staples arrived at Hillsville at 3 o'clock this morning. He took his place on the bench one hour later after a conference with members of the bar and Deputy Clerk Quisenberry.

In view of the deplorable event of yesterday, said Judge Staples, "I have designated to complete the March term of court, and it will probably be advisable to continue the cases on the docket to the May term."

"But it is my purpose to impeach a special grand jury to inquire into the crime committed in this room, and to have it meet to-morrow at 9 o'clock."

He then made the appointments already stated, and the docket was called and continued without incident. An immense crowd thronged the building throughout the afternoon. Scores of bullet holes are to be seen on all sides, in the judge's chair, in the clerk's desk, in the railings, in the walls and in the ceiling. Blood stains mark the spot where Judge Staples and Mr. Foster fell, the latter with six bullets in his body.

Further versions of the tragedy are easily obtainable from dozens of eyewitnesses, no two agreeing as to details. It is stated by many that when Floyd Allen leaped to his feet and brandished his revolver, he was never taken to the penitentiary to draw his pistol. Seeing this, Sheriff Webb drew his revolver and possibly would have disabled Allen, but for the fact that W. S. Tipton, attorney for the prisoners, had arisen and stood between them. The sheriff's unwillingness to injure the lawyer materially changed the situation and perhaps cost him his life. The large crowd in the courtroom was thrown into a panic, and the men madly rushed for the doorway. One man was trampled upon and is now badly injured.

A woman, present as a witness, shrieked with fear and implored some one to save her infant, which she held in her arms. In spite of the fusillade of shots behind him and the panic-stricken crowd all around, a man named Albert Thomas caught the woman in his arms and bravely held her until the mob had left the room, at the same time standing between her and the flying bullets.

Girl's Death a Surprise.

The surprise of to-day was the death of Miss Nancy Elizabeth Ayres, a nineteen-year-old girl. No one in Hillsville knew she had been wounded until her death was announced at 9 o'clock this morning. When she left the town for her home yesterday she did not know she had been shot, but complained of bruises which she thought she had received in the mad rush from the courtroom. Without a doubt Miss Ayres, who was a witness in the Allen case, was shot accidentally.

Thirty Baldwin detectives arrived at Hillsville at 7 o'clock this morning. Not a moment was lost by them in apprehending Floyd Allen, who had been in his room at the hotel since receiving his wounds in the courtroom affray. He was taken to the county jail and placed in a cell, but a few moments later, drawing a small penknife from his pocket, he attempted to cut his throat in the presence of the guards. He was quickly seized and the weapon taken from him. His self-inflicted wound is slight, and it is believed he will recover from all his injuries. Victor Allen, the young son of the wounded prisoner, was taken into custody, and Cabell Strickland and Byrd Marion were also arrested.

Mrs. Sidna Allen Added to List of Dead in Carroll County Tragedy When Cabin Is Bombarded and One of Gang Leaders Taken Prisoner.

SHARPSHOOTERS SURROUND JAIL TO PREVENT DESPERADOES FROM RESCUING FELLOW-MURDERERS

With Streams Swollen and Roads Almost Impassable, Raiders Who Shot Down Court Officials Apparently Are Safe in Their Highland Fastnesses, but Pursuit Will Be Taken Up Again This Morning—Rumored That Big Band of Mountaineers Has Been Recruited to Their Defense and Their Taking Means Bloody Battle. Floyd and Sidna Allen Prisoners, With Three Others Held as Witnesses—Death of Young Girl Brings List of Courtroom Fatalities Up to Five.

(By Associated Press.)

HILLSVILLE, MARCH 15.—THE END OF THE DAY'S CHASE OF THE HILLSVILLE RAIDERS BROUGHT THE DEATH LIST OF THE COURTHOUSE TRAGEDY AND ITS SEQUEL UP TO FIVE.

SIDNA AND FLOYD ALLEN, TWO OF THE "CHIEF" OF THE BAND WHICH RODE DOWN ON THE CARROLL COUNTY COURTHOUSE YESTERDAY AND ASSASSINATED THE JUDGE, THE PROSECUTOR AND THE SHERIFF, ARE IN CAPTIVITY, BOTH WOUNDED SEVERELY. SIDNA ALLEN'S WIFE IS DEAD, SHOT IN A PITCHED BATTLE WITH A POSSE IN THE MOUNTAINS WHILE HELPING DEFEND HER OUTLAW HUSBAND.

THE FIFTH DEATH WAS THAT OF NANCY AYRES, A NINETEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL, ACCIDENTALLY SHOT DURING THE FUSILLADE IN THE COURTHOUSE YESTERDAY.

ALL THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GANG, PROBABLY EIGHTEEN, ARE UP IN THE MOUNTAINS OFF TOWARD THE NORTH CAROLINA LINE, WELL ARMED, WELL SUPPLIED AND DETERMINED NOT TO BE TAKEN.

The storming of Sidna Allen's house late to-day was the next thing to a bombardment. The posse trailed through the brush four miles up the ridge and surrounded his cabin in a group. All of the expecting family was barricaded, well supplied with rifles and ammunition, which Allen brought from a store in which he was a partner. From behind stumps, rocks and trees and other natural fortresses of the mountainside the posse blazed at the house, and Allen blazed at the posse as fast as his family could reload his rifle. In a lull the posse rushed the house, broke down the doors and found Allen's wife shot dead and Allen himself groaning in a heap, bleeding profusely.

"You got me because I could not fight no longer," he is reported to have said to the men who brought him back to Hillsville more dead than alive.

Attorney-General Williams, who is here to-day, declared that Sidna Allen's bullets killed Judge Staples on the bench. Floyd Allen, the cause of the tragedy, was taken to the lock-up this morning under a heavy guard, and immediately whipped out a pocketknife and slashed his throat. His wounds, however, are not serious. Allen's son, Victor Cabell Strickland and Byrd Marion, were also locked up as witnesses.

Wounded Juror Not Expected to Live.

Juror Fowler, who was wounded in the firing, is not expected to live through the night. The wounds of Jurors Kane and Worrell and Clerk Goad are not serious.

To-night the man hunt is in abeyance, waiting for daylight. No native, let alone a stranger, will travel these mountain roads at dark with the Allen gang loose. At daybreak one set of detectives which had reached Hillsville joined a party of deputy sheriffs from the neighborhood and set off up the mountainside. The traveling was slow and tedious. The other party, which went up the north side of the ridge, stormed the Allen house.

With the arrival of help, confidence began to take the place of the terror which prevailed unrestrained for twenty-four hours. Judge Staples, designated by Governor Mann to come here and hold court, took the bench and summoned a special grand jury to indict the murderers. This one act had more to do with the restoration of quiet than any other. The reorganization of the court, which was all but wiped out yesterday by the work of assassins, had a great influence.

Early in the day a report came from Mount Airy that the Allen gang had raided a hardware store there and stocked up with guns and bullets. That probably is partially true. Sidna Allen was part owner of the store, and the gang probably found supplies ready. Reports have been coming down the mountain all day that the outlaws have recruited a big band to their defense. Officers think this not unlikely. A lawless element, in which the Allens were ringleaders, has ruled the mountain fastnesses for years. There is a saying among the revenue officers that every pine tree shelters a whiskey still. A battle between law and crime is sure to draw recruits here.

Jail Surrounded by Sharpshooters.

To-night a guard of mountain sharpshooters surrounds the jail, ready for any attempt to take off the prisoners. The officers think, however, that with both the Allens wounded the outlaws may have less stomach for the fight.

The outlaws could not have picked a better time to make a stand against their pursuers. Every mountain brook is a little creek; every creek is a small river. The heavy rains of the last few weeks melted the mountain snows, washed out the roads, carried off the bridges and made mud knee deep. The hardest ponies flounder up the grades with great effort.

With daylight the pursuit will be renewed with reinforcements that are still coming from the countryside.

Few of the tragedy have been so many that all probably never will be told. A man came to light to-day, Walter Tipton, a lawyer, who was defending Floyd Allen in court yesterday, was a brother-in-law of Commonwealth's Attorney, who was killed. Tipton stood beside his relative when Allen, very glad if he was under Tipton's arm, shot down Foster, who killed Sheriff Strickland. Tipton should have definitely known.